

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Before line 1 of the specification please insert the following paragraph: --This nonprovisional application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a) on Patent Application No(s). 2002-239680 and 2002-239685 filed in JAPAN on August 20, 2002, which is(are) herein incorporated by reference.--

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 15, as follows:

With consideration to the above situations, it is therefore an objectfeature of the present invention to provide a sheet feeder and an image forming apparatus having it, which assures pickup of recording sheets by employment of a drive source and which can be retracted into the image forming apparatus by turning the pickup device (feeding device) without being affected by the static force of the drive source. Another objectfeature of the present invention is to provide a sheet feeder and an image forming apparatus having it, of which the pickup device, even though having a protecting cover, can be snugly retracted into the flank of the image forming apparatus.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 2, as follows:

In order to achieve the above objectfeature, the present invention provides a sheet feeder comprising: a sheet receptacle disposed at the flank of a main apparatus for holding sheets thereon; a feeding device rotatably arranged at the flank for sending sheets from the sheet receptacle into the main apparatus; and an urging mechanism for pressing the feeding means by transmission of the drive force from a predetermined drive source, characterized in that the feeding device is rotatably shifted between an operating position in which sheet feeding action is made and a retracted position in which the device is retracted at the flank of the main apparatus while a predetermined waiting position is disposed between the operating position and the retracted position, and the feeding device is urged by the urging mechanism, at least when set at the operating position and the waiting position and is freed from the

urging of the urging mechanism when placed between the waiting position and the retracted position.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 21, as follows:

In order to achieve the above ~~objectfeature~~, the present invention provides a sheet feeder comprising: a sheet receptacle disposed at the flank of a main apparatus for holding sheets thereon; a feeding device rotatably arranged at the flank and set at a predetermined operating position to send sheets from the sheet receptacle into the main apparatus; and a cover member covering the feeding device, characterized in that the cover member is provided on the flank side of the main apparatus, and the feeding device is rotated in linkage with the cover member when the cover member is rotated from the predetermined usage position toward the flank so that the cover member and the feeding device are retracted at the flank of the main apparatus.